103. The necessity for the representation of the Ezhava community in the Town Improvement Committees.

Mr. P. Madhavan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) pointed out that the Ezhavas constituted one-sixth of the entire population of the State and formed by no means an unimportant factor in the body politic. He also observed that the members of his community in British Malabar occupied positions of trust and responsibility in the municipal administration of the cities of Malabar. The municipalities of British India and the Town Improvement Committees of Travancore were established with a view to initiate the people into the rudiments of self-government and prepare them for greater participation in the government of the country. The opportunities for the purpose in Travancore so far as the Ezhavas were concerned were very limited. But the generous policy of the Government in the past enabled some members of the community to gain entrance into a few of the Committees in the State, as for instance in Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, Kayenkulam, Mavelikara, Thiruvalla and Parur. Thirteen Committees still remained unrepresented. The community apprehended that, with the introduction of the principle of election of the non-official members of all the Committees, it would be cast into the background and neglected in municipal matters to the great detriment of the social and political amelioration of the community. The Member expressed the belief of the community that, for some time to come, the members of the community had not the remotest chance of being returned to the Assembly or to the Committees by popular election. It was the kind recognition by the Government of the disability of the community in that direction that prompted His Highness' Government to adopt the method of nomination of the representatives of the community for the Assembly and for some of the Committees. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to devise such measures as would assure the community a fair representation in the Committees in the State, at least until the community attained a stage of vantage in popular elections.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

104. Certain needs of Kayenkulam town.

Mr. A. Krishna Pillai (Member, Trading Classes, Kayenkulam) stated that the following were some of the important needs of the town :—

(1) The Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court should be transferred to Kayenkulam. The matter was pressed more than once in the Assembly and the Government had declined to grant the prayer on the ground that the money transactions of the Court at Krishnapuram were with the Karunagapalli Sub-treasury and that the Munsiff's Court at Mavelikara was but 7 miles from Kayenkulam. (*Vide* G. O. No. J. 6800, dated 13-8-1914.) Krishnapuram was only 1½ miles from Kayenkulam, which was an important and growing town. It was inconvenient for the court to deal with the Karunagapalli treasury which was 7½ miles distant. It was easier to deal with the nearer Mavelikara treasury or, what was better, the Government should open a treasury at Kayenkulam. He requested therefore that the question of the transfer of the Krishnapuram Court to Kayenkulam might be reconsidered.

(2) For the convenience of the several public institutions in and around Kayenkulam, a sub-treasury in the town was quite essential and the Member requested that the Government should reconsider their decision in the matter, declining to sanction a sub-treasury for the place.

(3) The public offices in the town were mostly held in rented buildings. A separate building should be put up for the use of all the offices.

(4) A well for the use of the public should be dug in the town. There was no Sirkar land available. The necessary land had therefore to be acquired. In reply to the query from the Dewan whether it would do if a well be ordered to be constructed within the premises of the Magistrate's Court, the Member said that the proper place for the well would be somewhere near the market, but if a land could not be found for it there, the people would be satisfied with a well within the

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